The Honorable Michael K. Powell Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

May 9, 2003

RECEIVED & INGPECTED

Mr. Powell, Ism writing you today to express my concern over the possibility of the FCC relaxing the rules of ownership for broadcast entities. I believe it would be a mistake to relax the current rules that prohibit the media corporations from setting up monopolies that could control the democratic flow of free information and freedom of speech that is so important to our nation. Many of these corporations that are currently knocking at your door, pushing you to make these changes have demonstrated their desire to do just that. They seek total control over what is said on issues that are of critical importance to the American people. In a democracy, no one should have such control. The American people deserve to have open forums for the free exchange of information and ideas, and not outlets that are controlled by the few, who seek to impose their own personal agendas, be they left, right or middle of the road.

I urge you not to change the rules of ownership. They were established for good reasons and deserve to be upheld and reinforced, not reduced. Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Nickerson

Michael D. Niekusm

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

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MAY 2 0 2003

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ON THE CONTROL OF THE CONT

May 9, 2003

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Michael P. Nickuson

MAY 9, 0, 2003

RECEIVED & MISPECTED

The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

May 9, 2003

Confirmed

MAY 2.1 2003

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Michael F. Nickerson

Michael P. Nickerson

May 13, 2003

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Richard Nieto 716 S. Winchester Ave Alhanbra, CA 91803

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Distribution, \_\_\_\_er

Michael K. Pawell, Chairman

FEderal Communications Commission - MAILING

445 12th Sheet SW

WAShington, DC

DEAR ChAIRMAN PONULI,

I unge you not to deregulate media outlets under FCC jurisdiction. It seems to me medio outlets will be controlled by longe NATIONAL /INTERNATIONAL CORPORATIONS & WE, The people will suffer is a posult of not having a vomety of modern outlets to make sound, Educational, intoxued decisions on setivities That offect us.

A true Democracy demoned a free press, not a controlled press as we witness during the Irang situation.

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May 13, 2003

Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein 445 12th Street SW Washington, 20554

MAY 21 2003

Distribution Come

Re: Make Your Voice Heard on Media Diversity Before It's Too Late!

Dear Commissioner Adelstein:

I am writing to remind the members of the Federal Communications Commission that you are responsible for ensuring that the media "serve the public interest." I am concerned that if the FCC continues to relax regulations on media ownership, the victor will be big business--and the casualties will be the people of the U.S.

The free flow of information, the benefits of local competition and the power of a diverse marketplace will virtually disappear.

As a supporter of women's rights, I am concerned that the current media merger free-for-all threatens to rob us all of the independent voices, views and ideas that nourish a pluralistic, democratic society.

The media are more than just a business; they bring information to people that affects their lives. We cannot have a healthy democracy, and women cannot pursue equal rights, if we are uninformed on the issues. The media have a responsibility to serve the public interest and ensure that all voices are heard. It is your job to promote this.

Please remember U.S. consumers and citizens when you review the remaining regulations. These regulations must be kept in place, and strengthened, not weakened. The media giants already control far too much of our precious information resources.

I am very concerned about ing supartially in news supporting

Maureen Blechour

Maureen Robichaud 64 Walnut Road

Tewksbury, Massachusetts 01876

## Confirmed

MAY 2 1 2003

#### Distribution Center

RECEIVED & MISPECTE, Katherine Hodge 15 S. Oxford, #4 MAY 2 0 2083 oklyn, NY 11217

FCC - MA May 14, 2003

Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein 445 12th Street SW Washington, 20554

Re: Media Diversity

#### Commissioner Adelstein:

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Sincerely,

Katherine Hodge

MAY 2 1 2003

Katherine Hodge 15 S. Oxford, #4 Brooklyn, NY 11217

Distribution Center

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

14, 2003

Commissioner Kevin Martin

445 12th Street SW Washington, 20554

FCC - MAILROOM

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e an

Re: Media Diversity

MAY 1/2 2003

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Sincerely,

Katherine Hodge

Nelson & Lawless

Attorneys at Law

Terry A. Nelson -- lawyer@surfcity.com Julia J. Lawless -- lawless@surfcity.com

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MAY 2 0 2003

FCC - MAILRO

2134 Main St., Suite 130 Huntington Beach, CA 92648 Phone: (714) 960-7584

FAX: (714) 960-9115

MAY 2 1 2003

May 12, 2003

Distribution Cerns

Kathleen Q. Abernathy, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> St, SW Washington DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Abernathy:

It is your duty and obligation to reject any attempts to further relax the broadcast ownership rules that prevent media monopolies. The current rules should be strengthened, not weakened. To allow yet more monopoly ownership of media outlets would further erode the freedom of speech and diversity of political debate by individuals and groups not favored by the owners of such entities.

Sincerely,

Terry A. Nelson

2003

To: Kevin J. Martin, Commissioner

Federal Communication Schmission

44512th St. 5W

Washing ton, D. C 20554 MAY 20 2003

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MC KINNEY, JERRY DOUGLAS PO BOX 427 BALSAM, NC 28707-0427

Confirmed

MAY 2 1 25.33

Distribution ---

Ewould arge to oppose the proposal to let the big media companied conglonerates to take over small television fradio stations. with the big contributions to political canditates the surgerance of large companies combines; it would appear these are against the lower democratic life which seems to be disappearing along whom aght every day some one must stand up for these rights. I trust you will be one since of those

# Nelson & Lawless

Attorneys at Law

Terry A. Nelson -- lawyer@surfcity.com Julia J. Lawless -- lawless@surfcity.com

Confirm

MAY 21 ---

2134 Main St., Suite 130 Huntington Beach, CA 92648 Phone: (714) 960-7584 FAX: (714) 960-9115

May 12, FOE - MAILROOM Distribution <

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

Kevin J. Martin, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St, SW Washington DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Terry A. Nelson

# Roderick & Lois Briggs

Seal BEGENED 2011 SPECIFIC 31-8800/438-7933

MAY 2 0 2003

May 3, 2003

Michael K. Powell, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington DC 20554

MAY % 2003

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Washington, DC 20554

Districa.... Jenter

Dear Chairman Powell:

We object to the lack of public input on the proposed vote at your June 2, 2003, meeting of the FCC to relax restrictions on consolidation of media ownership. Not only have there been insufficient public hearings on these unspecified proposals, as reported in the press, but the whole movement toward deregulation of broadcast TV is abhorrent to me and my wife.

Over our lifetimes, we have seen the time allotments for commercials per hour triple. In addition, the public used to have some power over a radio and/or TV station by exercising its rights to comment when its license renewal came up. Stations had to meet a minimum of hours devoted to the public interest, and a license could be denied if a station was found wanting in its children's programming, time devoted to public issues, etc. Laws had some teeth in them, and seemed to be enforced. Equal time for both sides was required when elections rolled around. If one party or candidate was given access to listeners or viewers, the opposition had to be given equal access. Station ownership was restricted, so that diverse views and political opinion could be encouraged. The premise was that the public airwaves were owned by the public, NOT corporate entities. The FCC was established and run to quarantee that the public interest was served while still allowing private control of programming, so diverse viewpoints could be expressed from which the public could then form its opinions. We commercialized the public airwaves, but required some minimum standards to restrict exploitation of public property.

The consolidation of ownership in recent years, allowed by Congress, the FCC and the courts is detrimental to democracy. We the public are inundated with ever longer, louder, and more intrusive commercials. Programming comes from an ever declining number of sources, most of which are controlled by a very restricted number of corporate producers and/or opinion shapers. Where is a diversity of views to come from if these trends continue? Cable does not provide for diversity. There may be 20 cable channels with differing identities, but they all have the same source, a single corporate entity with a single minded viewpoint or theme. The FCC must draw the line against this trend toward monopoly in the media and airwaves.

For instance, if a single corporation owns two broadcast stations and a newspaper in a single city, three news outlets may appear to be functioning, but in reality, only one management is determining what stories are aired or printed, and one management is exercising its editorial judgment. There are three entities, but only one viewpoint, perhaps even only one consolidated news gathering and editorial staff being used. The public is not being adequately served. And if the other stations in the city are equally consolidated by corporations with views similar to the first example, the public only receives a single message, erroneously implying that only one

viewpoint exists on questions of political, economic, or social importance. This is not democracy. Rather, it leans toward totalitarian thought control. Its closest parallel would be Benito Mussolini's pioneering use of government policy for corporate interests in Italy during the 1920's, otherwise known as Fascism, later copied by Hitler, with Joseph Goebbels monopolizing all sources of information, newspaper, radio, etc. This became known as propaganda.

We both demand and plead that the FCC encourage diversity, not restrict it. The FCC must fulfill its mission to act in the PUBLIC interest, not take away the public airwaves and hand them over to a few corporations who can spend the most on lobbying in Washington! Save our public airwaves for the public, not private interests!

Thank you for your service and consideration of the above comments.

Sincerely,

Roderck Elongs Lais Briggs ontirmed

May 3, 2003

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MAY 2 7 2003

Kevin J. Martin, Commissioner MAY & Federal Communications Commission

Distribution Center

445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Distribu....

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Thank you for your service and consideration of the above comments.

Sincerely,

Roderick E. Briggs

Roderch EBriggs Low Briggs

RECEIVED WINDESTED MAY 2 0 2003 Dear Mr. Powel: I'm writing to protest your proposal to allow more conglomeration in the media. Democracy is not well served by having fewer and fewer giant corporations controlling the news. We need media outlets to be in more hands, not fewer. We also should also bring back the fairness doctrine. The airwaves belong to the public. Please act to protect the public interest. Thank you. Confirmed MAY 2 1 2003 Mr. Jesse amold Distribution Center P. O. BOX 1211 Cambria CA 934-28

Richard and Linda Avery 8802 Chambers Place NE Albuquerque, NM 87111-2134 May 10, 2003 RECEIVED & INSPECTED

MAY 2 0 2003

FCG - MAILROOM

Confirmed

MAY 2 1 2003

Michael Powell, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Distripution อะกิเอก

### Dear Chairman Powell:

We are writing to you to express our opposition to the proposed FCC plan to loosen media ownership rules. It places too much power in the hands of a few media giants. Government regulation is essential to prevent a few companies from controlling everything we see, read, and hear.

We think that it's unconscionable for the Commission to try to sneak the rule change through. Just one hearing? Ridiculous! Why are you trying to shield this from public scrutiny? (We think that we know the answer to THAT one!)

Sincerely,

Richard Avery

Linda Avery

Law Office of
RECEIVED & INSPECTED

2080 Collier Avenue Fort Myers, FL 33901

(239) 936-9393 (239) 936-9237 - Fax MAY 2 0 200 Street

| Street | LaBelle, EL 3935 | 863-675-7719

112 W.C. Owens Avenue Clewiston, FL 33440

(863) 902-9211

May 14, 2003

The Honorable Michael K. Powell Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Confirmed

MAY 2 1 2003

Distribution Center

Dear Mr. Powell:

I urge you <u>not</u> to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are ow lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and or freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Kobert L. Vaughn, Esq.

May 14, 2003

The Honorable Michael J. Copps Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554 MAY 2 0 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

Confirmed

MAY 21 2003

**Distribution Center** 

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Sincerely,

Robert I. Boyer PO Box 393

Blue River, OR 97413-9998

RECEIVED & INSPECTED Hob Lake
PO Box 309
MAY 2 0 20021 Nd. Cleveland St.
Poynette, Wi. 53955
FCC - MAILROOM

May 14, 2003

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554 Confirmed

MAY 2 1 2003

Distribution Center

Dear Commissioner Martin,

From my position on the "playing field", it often appears that my part of the real estate is perched on a hillside of magnificent proportions. Never the less, the referees (whoever they may be) take this into account and at the very least chisel some steps into the grade and give me just enough purchase to continue the game. You are one such "referee" of considerable power, and I ask that you look carefully at the broadcast ownership rules and not relax them; not even one step at a time.

<del>(60</del>8) 635 7191

While communication media loudly self-proclaim rectitude, righteousness and integrity, for them it is an effortless exercise in "spin" distribution on a world stage. For me to cut through it all alone, the effort would be prodigious and exhausting with little or even no effect as close in as my own local surroundings.

As media units enlarge, fewer remain. In parallel, broadcast viewpoints also dwindle leaving all of us a narrower and stunted set of data with which to acquire an effective viewpoint of our own.

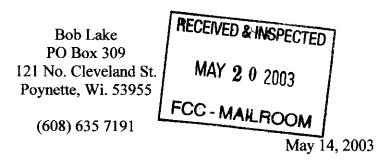
In my opinion, this individual viewpoint is the all-important underlying basis for the success of our free nation.

I think that it deserves to be preserved. I hope you do to.

YOU can do this.

Thank You.

Bob Lake



The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Confirmed

MAY 21 2003

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Distribution Center

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YOU can do this.

Thank You.

Bob Lake

MAY 2 0 2003
FCC - MAILROOM

Bob Lake PO Box 309 121 No. Cleveland St. Poynette, Wi. 53955

(608) 635 7191

May 14, 2003

The Honorable Micheal J. Kopps Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Confirmed

MAY 2 1 2003

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Distribution Center

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YOU can do this.

Thank You.

**Bob Lake** 

Confirmed

MAY 2 1 2003

Distribution Center

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MAY 2 0 2003

FCC-MAILROOM

May 13, 2003

Commissioner Kevin J. Martin Federal Communications Commission 115 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Martin:

The people of the United States are best served when they are kept accurately and fully informed and when they are exposed to differing points of view. The trend toward concentration of the news and information media into fewer and fewer hands is inimical those needs. The philosophical differences between media conglomerates is apt to be minimal and reflective of their common, self-serving interests and biases. This trend must not be continued. The way to preserve media diversity is to prevent media monopoly.

Please do not support this trend by further relaxing the present ownership rules.

Sincerely yours,

adut ho

Ethel M. Mann

Robert N. Mann

Ethel M. Mann 2450 Catalpa Way

San Bruno. CA

94066

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

MAY 2 0 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

May 13, 2003

Confirmed

MAY 2 1 2003

Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein Federal Communications Commission 115 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Distribution Center

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Sincerely yours,

Pdet n. 2

Robert N. Mann

Ethel M. Mann

Ethel M. Mann 2450 Catalpa Way San Bruno, CA

94066

May 13, 2003

Commissioner Kevin Martin 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554 MAY 2 0 2003
FCG-MAILROOM

Confirmed

MAY 2 1 2003

Re: Please Retain and Strengthen Current Media Ownership Rules

#### Dear Commissioner Martin:

**Distribution Center** 

I am writing to remind the members of the Federal Communications Commission that you are responsible for ensuring that the media "serve the public interest." I am concerned that if the FCC continues to relax regulations on media ownership, the victor will be big business — and the casualties will be the people of the U.S. The free flow of information, the benefits of local competition and the power of a diverse marketplace will virtually disappear.

I am concerned that the current media merger free-for-all threatens to rob us all of the independent voices, views and ideas that nourish a pluralistic, democratic society. The media are more than just another business; they control the flow of information that affects our daily lives. We cannot have a healthy democracy, and women cannot pursue equal rights, if we are uninformed on the issues.

The FCC has a responsibility to establish rules that encourage the media to serve the public interest and ensure that all voices are heard. The FCC was not created solely to serve the interests of the media giants.

Please remember U.S. consumers and citizens when you review the remaining media ownership regulations. These regulations must be kept in place, and strengthened, not weakened. The media giants already control far too much of our precious information resources.

Sincerely,

Ann Pinkerton 5467 Lawton Ave. Oakland, CA 94618 May 3, 2003

Kathleen Q. Abernathy, Commissioner Confidence Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554



Dear Commissioner Abernathy:

We object to the lack of public input on the proposed vote at your June 2, 2003, meeting of the FCC to relax restrictions on consolidation of media ownership. Not only have there been insufficient public hearings on these unspecified proposals, as reported in the press, but the whole movement toward deregulation of broadcast TV is abhorrent to me and my wife.

Over our lifetimes, we have seen the time allotments for commercials per hour triple. In addition, the public used to have some power over a radio and/or TV station by exercising its rights to comment when its license renewal came up. Stations had to meet a minimum of hours devoted to the public interest, and a license could be denied if a station was found wanting in its children's programming, time devoted to public issues, etc. Laws had some teeth in them, and seemed to be enforced. Equal time for both sides was required when elections rolled around. If one party or candidate was given access to listeners or viewers, the opposition had to be given equal access. Station ownership was restricted, so that diverse views and political opinion could be encouraged. The premise was that the public airwaves were owned by the public, NOT corporate entities. The FCC was established and run to guarantee that the public interest was served while still allowing private control of programming, so diverse viewpoints could be expressed from which the public could then form its opinions. We commercialized the public airwaves, but required some minimum standards to restrict exploitation of public property.

The consolidation of ownership in recent years, allowed by Congress, the FCC and the courts is detrimental to democracy. We the public are inundated with ever longer, louder, and more intrusive commercials. Programming comes from an ever declining number of sources, most of which are controlled by a very restricted number of corporate producers and/or opinion shapers. Where is a diversity of views to come from if these trends continue? Cable does not provide for diversity. There may be 20 cable channels with differing identities, but they all have the same source, a single corporate entity with a single minded viewpoint or theme. The FCC must draw the line against this trend toward monopoly in the media and airwaves.

For instance, if a single corporation owns two broadcast stations and a newspaper in a single city, three news outlets may appear to be functioning, but in reality, only one management is determining what stories are aired or printed, and one management is exercising its editorial judgment. There are three entities, but only one viewpoint, perhaps even only one consolidated news gathering and editorial staff being used. The public is not being adequately served. And if the other stations in the city are equally consolidated by corporations with views similar to the first example, the public only receives a single message, erroneously implying that only one

viewpoint exists on questions of political, economic, or social importance. This is not democracy. Rather, it leans toward totalitarian thought control. Its closest parallel would be Benito Mussolini's pioneering use of government policy for corporate interests in Italy during the 1920's, otherwise known as Fascism, later copied by Hitler, with Joseph Goebbels monopolizing all sources of information, newspaper, radio, etc. This became known as propaganda.

We both demand and plead that the FCC encourage diversity, not restrict it. The FCC must fulfill its mission to act in the PUBLIC interest, not take away the public airwaves and hand them over to a few corporations who can spend the most on lobbying in Washington! Save our public airwaves for the public, not private interests!

Thank you for your service and consideration of the above comments.

Sincerely,

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